

(4b) "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

(7) "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: *it is to your advantage that I go away*, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send Him to you. And when He comes, He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:

- Concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;
- Concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;
- Concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

(12) "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth, for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come.

(14) "He will glorify Me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is Mine; therefore, I said that He will take what is mine and declare it to you."

Think on these things:

- 1) We are told that on this Last Supper night with Jesus, the disciples catch on that Jesus is going to leave them shortly, and they are filled with sorrow (vs.5-6). Why is it that Jesus tells them it is to their advantage that He goes away (v.7)?

**Jesus says it is to our ADVANTAGE for Him to go away, because it paves the way for the Holy Spirit of Truth, the Helper, to come and minister to us --- and to the world (different impacts).**

- 2) Who convicts the world of sin that leads people to repent and put their saving faith in Jesus (vs.7-8)? Do you --- as a believer --- have any part in this? See 2 Corinthians 3:4-6 and 5:17-20.

Who convicts the world of sin?

**The Helper (Holy Spirit of Truth)**

What is a believer's role?

**I can --- and must --- share the Gospel with others in this world. However, I cannot save anyone. The Holy Spirit brings the conviction that leads people to believe in Jesus for salvation. 2 Corinthians 3, it is God who has made us 'competent' to be ministers of God's new covenant. 2 Corinthians 5 calls us God's ambassadors for Jesus Christ, making His appeal to others for reconciliation through us. We speak up; the H.S. convicts and saves.**

- 3) Understanding how the Holy Spirit convicts the world of "righteousness" may be difficult for some to grasp. If the key to understanding is that Jesus is no longer ministering on this earth, what do you think it means?

**It is through Jesus that we grasp the righteousness of God. Jesus represents what is good. Without Him, man doesn't understand the true meaning of God's standard of righteousness. When we don't 'get it', we erroneously develop our own concepts and ideas of what is good and acceptable to God! With Jesus not present, the Holy Spirit role is to clarify God's standard.**

- 4) Let's learn about the "ruler of this world" who will be judged? As a believer living in the here-and-now, what is your reaction to God's judgment on him?

John 14:30 – Jesus gave him this “title”, and states that he has no authority over Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:4 – As ‘god of this world’ he blinds the minds of unbelievers to keep them from seeing the light of God’s Gospel deliverance.

Ephesians 2:1-2 – Now referred to as the ‘prince of the power of the air,’ he is working through the lives of the disobedient (the ungodly).

Ephesians 6:10-13 – Here he is the devil, who schemes against believers and leads other powers of darkness to wrestle with them. Without God’s full armor, we cannot withstand him.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 – Satan --- will raise up the Lawless One (Anti-Christ) and empower him to deceive us in the end times, though the Lawless One will be slain quickly by Christ’s Word.

1 Peter 5:8-9 – The devil is our adversary, who, as a hungry lion, prowls around looking for victims to devour.

Revelation 12:10 – Satan is the “accuser of Christian brothers,” leveling accusations day and night before God of all our failures and shortcomings.

Your reaction to God judging him? Though God created our world, Jesus acknowledges that Satan, the devil, is currently ruling this sin-sick world. He opposes God and challenges believers at every turn. He schemes against them, stalks them, and trips them up to devour them. BUT, the truth is that God’s victory over Satan was secured by Jesus’ death on the cross. We may face battles today, but we know the end-result of life already. Christ has won!!!

- 5) Jesus says He still has many things to say to them, more than they can grasp at this time (v.12). How did He expect them to remember all of these last-minute teachings (v.13)?

**Jesus says the Holy Spirit (Helper) will teach them all He wants them to know and remember, as well as give the disciples insights into God’s unfolding future events (prophecies).**

- 6) In chapter 14, the disciples said to Jesus, “show us the Father,” and Jesus told them to look at Him because He and the Father are One. Looking at John 16:13-14, what counsel might we have for any Christian trying to understand Jesus and His teachings? Do you see this truth: “As Jesus is to understanding God the Father, the **Holy Spirit** (of Truth) is to understanding Jesus, God the Son.”

**Jesus said that the Helper was replacing Him as “another of the same kind,” devoted to glorifying Jesus and His teachings. New believers need to learn about the Holy Spirit, pray to and through Him as part of the Trinity, and especially meditate and listen for the Spirit’s voice. This is particularly true when reading and studying the Bible. We need the Holy Spirit to give us HIS insights into applications of God’s Word --- and not rely upon our own understanding.**

People and situations I want to pray for this week: